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Gosplan: The Revised Statute of 2 February 1938

1. Gosplan is made a permanent Commission of the Council of People's Commissars USSR.
 2. It consists of 11 members, individually approved by the Council of People's Commissars USSR from among leading planning workers and from among the most prominent scientific workers and specialists.
 3. Gosplan's functions are as follows:
 - a. To work out and submit to the Council of People's Commissars USSR long-term yearly and quarterly national economic plans
 - b. To submit to the Council of People's Commissars its recommendations on the plans prepared by the commissariats and other departments of the USSR, and by the constituent republics
 - c. To check fulfillment of the approved economic plans of the USSR
 - d. To work out the details on the instructions of the Council of People's Commissars USSR and on its own initiative to study particular problems of socialist economy
 - e. To appoint expert commissions on particular economic questions
 - f. To work out and submit for approval by the Council of People's Commissars USSR methodological problems of socialist planning
 - g. To supervise the work of socialist statistics.
 4. Gosplan's primary function is to coordinate the development of various branches of the economy and to eliminate disproportions in the economy.
 5. Gosplan checks plan fulfillment and makes recommendations on the basis of ex post facto study of the actual development of the plan.
 6. To carry out the above functions, Gosplan has central planning departments, sectors, and groups, as well as agents in the republics, krais, and oblasts which check on the fulfillment of the economic plans. These agents are directly subordinate to Gosplan USSR and work independently of the republic, oblast and, regional planning commissions.
 7. The Central Administration of Accounting for the National Economy is part of the State Planning Commission.
 8. The following structure of the central apparatus of the State Planning Commission is established:
 - a. Over-all national economic plan division, with a group for national economy balance
 - b. Capital construction division, with a group for construction materials balance
 - c. Finance division (budget and credit)
 - d. Division for distribution of enterprises and regional planning.
- The number of sectors dealing with special branches of the economy was increased to 21, as follows:

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- a. Natural resources
- b. Fuel - group for fuel balance
- c. Electric Power - group for power balance
- d. Metallurgy - group for metal balance
- e. Chemical industry
- f. Machine building - group for equipment balance
- g. Air and road transport
- h. Timber industry
- i. Food industry
- j. Light industry
- k. Railroad transport
- l. Water transport
- m. Agriculture
- n. Trade
- o. Local and cooperative industry
- p. Building materials industry
- q. Housing and Sanitation
- r. Foreign trade
- s. Culture and cadre
- t. Health
- u. Communications

In addition to the above, Gosplan also has the following offices:

- a. A sector for the training of planners
- b. An office for the subsequent registration of inventions
- c. Internal administrative department
- d. Planovoye Khozyaystvo and publication department
- e. Secretariat of the Chairman of Gosplan

9. The representatives of Gosplan in the republics, krais, and oblasts are appointed and dismissed by the Council of People's Commissars USSR on the advice of the chairman of Gosplan.

10. Organs of Gosplan have the right to require from commissariats and other government departments necessary data and explanations for checking the fulfillment of the economic plans.

11. Planning commissions under union and autonomous republics and under kray or oblast executive committees are guided by directives of Gosplan USSR on questions of planning methodology and checking of plan fulfillment.

12. Under the State Planning Commission is a council composed of members of Gosplan, representative agencies of Gosplan, and other planning workers, numbering in all up to 90 persons.(3)

Few changes were made between 1938 and the next reorganization of Gosplan in December 1940. In April 1938 an Office of Prices was created with a staff of nine or ten workers.(4)

Organization of Gosplan From 1940 to the Present

On 31 December 1940, the State Planning Commission was again reorganized. The structure of Gosplan after this reorganization was as follows:(5)

- 1. Chairman, Gosplan USSR; Deputy Chairman, Gosplan USSR; members of Gosplan USSR

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2. Over-All National Economic Plan Division

Sectors:

Production and capital repair
Production expenditures
Checking plan fulfillment
National economy balance
Over-all transport plan
Over-all plan

3. Capital Construction Division

Sectors:

Construction industry
Over-all capital work plan
Water economy
Special constructions

4. Finance Division

Sectors:

Financial plan
Budget
Credit and cash plan

5. Labor Division

Sectors:

Labor and wages
Training and allocation of personnel

Group on resettlement

6. Far East and East Siberia Regions Division

7. Urals and West Siberia Regions Division

8. Central Asia and Kazakhstan Regions Division

9. Transcaucasus Regions Division

10. Southern Regions Division

11. Central Industrial Region Division

12. Southeast Division

13. North and Northwest Division

14. West Division

15. Over-All Division of Regional Planning and Location of Enterprises

16. Fuel Division

Sectors:

Fuel balance
Coal and shale industry
Petroleum and gas industry

Group on peat industry

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17. Material Balance Division

Sectors:

Ferrous metals balance
Nonferrous metals (including cable products) balance
Lumber materials balance
Construction supply
High-grade steel

18. Equipment Balance Division

Sectors:

Power equipment balance
Tool and instrument balance
Technological equipment balance
Construction balance and transport equipment

19. Electric Power Division

Sectors:

Production and distribution of electric power
Electric power station construction

20. Machine Building Division

Sectors:

Heavy machine building
Medium machine building
General machine building
Coordination
Over-all plan

21. Food Industry Division

Sectors:

Fish industry
Food industry
Meat and dairy industry

22. Light Industry Division

Sectors:

Textile industry
Light industry
Raw material balances and semifinished products

23. Agriculture Division

Sectors:

Land cultivation
Livestock raising (husbandry)

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Industrial crops
MTS
Sovkhozes

Group on irrigation and amelioration

24. Trade Division

Sectors:

Goods distribution
Commodity stock balance
Trade

Group on general supplies

Group on trade network and cost of distribution

25. Culture Division

Sectors:

Schools and higher educational institutes
Arts

26. Natural Resources Division

27. Ferrous Metallurgy Division

Sectors:

Production and distribution
Capital work and equipment

Group on high-grade steel and ferroalloys

28. Nonferrous Metallurgy Division

Sectors:

Production and distribution
Capital work and equipment

29. Chemical Industry Division

Sectors:

Production and distribution
Capital work and equipment

Group on special chemistry

30. Aviation and Road Transport Division

Sector of auto transport

Group on aviation transport

Group on railroad transport

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31. Timber Industry Division

Sectors:

Timber Industry
Paper and cellulose industry
Forestry

Group on hydrolytic industry

32. Railroad Transport Division

Sectors:

Freight hauling
Capital repair

33. Water Transport Division

Sectors:

River transport
Maritime transport (including Northern Sea Route)

34. Procurement Division

Sectors:

Procurement and balance of agricultural products
Flour and groats milling industry

35. Office of Prices

36. Local Industry and Industrial Cooperatives Division

Sectors:

Local and fuel industry
Industrial cooperatives

37. Construction Materials Industry Division

38. Housing and Communal Economy Division

39. Foreign Trade Division

40. Health Division

Sectors:

Medical institutes
Children's Institutions

41. Communications Division

42. Inventions Office

43. Economy and Substitutes Office

44. Mobilization Division

45. Personnel Division

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46. Secretariat of Chairman of Gosplan and control group
47. Administration. Secret unit
 - Contract unit
 - Bookkeeping
 - Library
 - Machine officer
 - Archives
 - Expeditions
48. Planovoye Khozyaystvo
49. Gosplanizdat Publishing House
50. Technical and Economic Information Institute
51. Central Administration of National Economic Accounting and its local organs
52. Authorized agents of Gosplan USSR
53. Council of Scientific and Technical Experts
54. Council under Gosplan USSR
55. All-Union Economic Academy imeni Molotov

On 29 August 1946 the Council of Ministers USSR established new regulations for the development, examination, and ratification of annual national economic plans. The purpose of this decree was to strengthen the control function of Gosplan, particularly over the quarterly and monthly plans of ministries and departments. (6)

Together with the new regulations on auditing and ratifying the national economic plan, the government changed the structure of the State Planning Commission USSR. Exact details of the new organization are not known, but the following extracts from a periodical article give some indication as to the changes which were made in the organization of Gosplan in 1946:

"The new structure of Gosplan creates organizational conditions for the improvement of its operations. First, it improves the work of planning national economic interrelations and proportions and assures the development of all branches and sectors of the national economy. For this purpose, there are now two over-all divisions in Gosplan instead of a single over-all division which existed before the present reorganization. These two divisions are the Over-All Division of Long-Range Plans and the Over-All Division of the annual National Economic Plans.

"The establishment of an Over-All Division of Long-Range Plans aims at assuring the all-out development of long-range national economic plans, as well as long-range plans of individual branches. Work on the long-range plans must be systematic and must assure the necessary coordination with the current national economic plans. The Over-All Division of Long-Range Plans must keep a continuous check on the execution of the Five-Year Plan by ministries, departments, and union republics.

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"The Over-All Division of the National Economic Plans, in which a special sector of national economic relations and proportions has been set up, must coordinate industrial and agricultural production, national economy and transport, consumption and accumulation and other important national economic divisions of the annual plan.

"A new Division of Production has also been created which will work out over-all plans of industrial production and effect proper coordination between branches of industry. This division is divided into a producers' goods sector, consumers' goods sector, and the sector of productive proportions.

"Together with the consolidation and unification of Gosplan divisions, special administrations for planning the largest branches of the national economy, such as the fuel industry, machine building, agriculture, transport, and construction industry, have been established. The administrations are called upon to coordinate the work of divisions of the different branches and to guarantee correct relationships within each branch. For example, previously there existed within Gosplan several independent machine-building divisions.

"The newly created Planning Administration of Machine Building has unified divisions which are planning different branches of machine building. The Planning Administration of Machine Building must establish correct internal production relationships and interrelations in the machine-building industry; organize proper coordination and specialization of enterprises; assure complete assembly of machine-building production; and draw up an over-all plan for the machine-building industry. The Planning Administration of Machine Building is also called on to decide complex questions concerning the creation of a technical production base for various branches of the national economy.

"The Planning Administration for Agriculture unifies the work of soil cultivation, industrial crop, livestock raising, sovkhoz, and kolkhoz sectors, machine tractor stations, and other sectors. This administration must work out a complex plan embracing all agricultural activities and must establish coordination among the different branches of agriculture and assure the most advantageous regional allocation of agricultural production.

"Planning administrations for the important branches of the economy (machine building, construction industry, agriculture, transport, etc.) have over-all sectors which are called on to work out over-all branch plans.

"A new sector for the balance of monetary income and expenditures of the population which will assure the necessary correlation between the increase in goods and services on the market and the income of the population has been formed.

"Systematic reduction of expenditures in production of goods is a law of increased socialist production. The new structure of the Division of Prices and Cost, which includes sectors for planning production, marketing, and administrative expenditures, improves the planning of production costs and sales expenditures and also assures organizational coordination of the over-all plan of production expenditures with the financial plan of the national economy.

"The reorganization of the Administration of Territorial Distribution, within which sectors for union republics have been set up, also has great significance. This reorganization reflects the economic growth of union republics and will aid in the economic development of basic economic regions.

"The new Gosplan structure creates the essential conditions for the successful solution of its basic tasks -- establishment of correct economic relations and proportions among different economic branches and among economic regions and union republics.

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"The state technical plan is now an organic part of the current and long-range national economic plan. The newly established technical division in Gosplan aims at developing a truly scientific technical plan covering the most important branches of science and technology." (6)

No information is available as to further organizational changes which took place since 1946. However, some changes probably have occurred since an Animal Husbandry Division (formerly sector) has recently been identified. (7) Furthermore, on 9 January 1948 the State Planning Commission was renamed the State Planning Committee. (8)

Officials of Gosplan

The following Gosplan officials were mentioned in Biographic Information Report No 138.1 of the US State Department:

Chairman: Saburov, M.Z. (identified December 1949)

Deputy Chairman (for general affairs): Panov, A.D. (identified February 1947)

Deputy Chairmen: Demidov, S.F. (identified October 1949)
Lavrishchev, A.N. (identified May 1947)
Kozhevnikov, E.F. (identified December 1947)
Perov, G.V. (identified September 1948)

GLOSSARY

otdeleniye	department
otdel	division
upravleniye	administration
pravleniye	board
uchastok	section
chast'	unit
vedomstvo	department
sektor	sector
seksiya	section
komitet	committee
komissiya	commission
gruppa	group

SOURCES

1. Bol'shaya Entsiklopediya, Moscow, 1927.
2. Planovoye Khozyaystvo, No 11, 1940.
3. Pravda, 3 Feb 1938; also Sobraniye Postanovleniy i Rasporyazheniy Pravitel'stva SSSR, No 7, 28 Mar 1938.
4. Sobraniye Postanovleniy ... SSSR, No 17, 28 Apr 1938.
5. Sobraniye Postanovleniy ... SSSR, No 2, 16 Jan 1941.
6. Planovoye Khozyaystvo, No 5, 1946.
7. Izvestiya, 6 Jun 1951
8. Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 29 Jun 1950.

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